

# Supervisor Lesko and Councilwoman Bonner Announce Quality of Life Task Force Action in Sound Beach

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***Waste Management cleans up litter, debris and overgrown yard at vacated property.***



*Photos show the property before (left) and after (right) action by the Quality of Life Task Force.*

**Farmingville, NY** - Supervisor Mark Lesko and Councilwoman Jane Bonner announced that on June 21st a Quality of Life Task Force clean-up occurred at 52 Ronkonkoma Drive in Sound Beach. Complaints had been made by local residents about the amount of litter and overgrown bushes at the vacant house. The property was cleaned of debris and refuse and the grass and weeds that had been overgrown were mowed. The clean-up team consisted of members of the Town of Brookhaven's Department of Waste Management, as well as investigators from the Town's Law Department. The Town removed approximately 1.5 tons of litter and debris from the property at a cost of over \$1500, which will be charged back to the property owner on their tax bill.

"The Quality of Life Task Force has once again shown to be a valuable asset in our efforts to improve our neighborhoods," said Supervisor Lesko, "The clean up in Sound Beach was a great success and I commend the Quality of Life Task Force for holding those who disregard our Town code accountable."

Councilwoman Bonner said, "Properties like this one are blemishes on our community and a hazard to the health and safety of those who live nearby. I am proud to work the Quality of Life Task Force to see that the Town of Brookhaven remains a beautiful place for people to call home."

Supervisor Lesko established the Quality of Life Task Force to aggressively enforce the Town code, eliminate blight in neighborhoods and shutdown suburban slumlords. In the past three years, fines levied on code enforcement violations have increased by 332%. In 2011, the Town levied more than \$1 million dollars in fines against serial offenders for the first time in its history. In addition, at the request of Supervisor Lesko and the Town Board, the New York State Office of Court Administration established the Brookhaven Community Court in 2010. It is a special court that is part of the Sixth District Court in Patchogue dedicated to handling proceedings alleging violations of Brookhaven Town ordinances and affecting the quality of life of local residents.

If residents believe that a property is in violation of any Town of Brookhaven codes, they can call 451-TOWN to file a complaint. To learn more about the Quality of Life Task Force, visit [www.brookhaven.org](http://www.brookhaven.org).

**Division of Public Information \* Office of the Supervisor**

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